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REVIEW OF RULES IN CHAPTER 4731-20, OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE:  
SURGERY PRIVILEGES OF A PODIATRIST

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The two rules in Chapter 4730-20, Ohio Administrative Code, define “foot” and set qualifications for a podiatrist to perform surgery on the ankle. The rules were reviewed with the goal of clarifying and updating the language.

here are no substantive changes proposed. The proposed amendments are as follows:

**Rule 4731-20-01:** Definition of “foot.”

The actual wording of the definition is not changed. The amendment is to the format of the rule, and done purely to conform to rule-writing protocols. However, because more than fifty percent of the rule is amended, the current rule will be rescinded and a new rule adopted.

**Rule 4731-20-02:** Surgery: ankle joint

The amendments clarify the requirements, update the name of the accrediting organization formerly known as the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, and amend the rule format to comply with rule-writing protocols.

Please send any comments to [Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov](mailto:Sallie.Debolt@med.ohio.gov) by **April 14, 2016**.

4731-20-01

**Definition of foot.**

"Foot", as used in section 4731.51 of the Revised Code, means the terminal appendage of the lower extremity and includes the ankle joint which consists of the tibial plafond, its posterolateral border (posterior malleolus), the medial malleolus, distal fibula (lateral malleolus) and the talus.

~~(A) "Foot", as used in section 4731.51 of the Revised Code, is defined as the terminal appendage of the lower extremity and includes the ankle joint which consists of the tibial plafond, its posterolateral border (posterior malleolus), the medial malleolus, distal fibula (lateral malleolus) and the talus.~~

4731-20-02

**Surgery: ankle joint.**

(A) A podiatric physician may perform surgery on the ankle joint, if when both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The podiatric physician holds privileges to perform surgery on the ankle joint from one or more of the following entities:

(a) A college of podiatric medicine and surgery approved by the board pursuant to section 4731.51 of the Revised Code;

(b) A hospital approved by the ~~joint commission on the accreditation of health care organizations~~ "Joint Commission" or the ~~American osteopathic association~~ "American Osteopathic Association"; or

(c) An ambulatory surgical facility approved by the department of health pursuant to its authority under Chapter 3702. of the Revised Code; and

(2) The podiatric physician can demonstrate adequate education, training and experience needed to conform to minimal standards of care of similar practitioners under the same or similar circumstances by meeting either of the following criteria:

(a) Having attained board qualified status from the ~~American board of podiatric surgery~~ "American Board of Podiatric Surgery" and having successfully completed at least a twenty-four month residency in podiatric surgery approved by the ~~council on podiatric medical education~~ "Council on Podiatric Medical Education", or

(b) Holding privileges to perform surgery on the ankle joint from an institution meeting criteria under paragraph (A)(1) of this rule, providing that such privileges were granted prior to ~~the effective date of this rule~~ January 30, 1997.

~~(3) A podiatric physician who performs surgery on the ankle joint other than in accordance with all the terms of this rule violates divisions (B)(6) and (B)(20) of section 4731.22 of the Revised Code.~~

(B) A podiatric physician who performs surgery on the ankle joint other than in accordance with all the terms of this rule violates divisions (B)(6) and (B)(20) of section 4731.22 of the Revised Code.